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Attorney Docket No. JEFF-YOO01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Yoon
Serial No.: 09/473,872
Filed: December 28, 1999
For: Novel Gene Therapy Methods for the Treatment of Skin Disorders

Group Art Unit No.: 1632
Examiner: Brunovskis, P.

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination of the Continued Prosecution Application filed concurrently herewith, please enter this Preliminary Amendment.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required by this paper to Deposit Account No. 18-0586.

In The Claims:

Sub O 1. (Twice Amended) A method of modifying a selected gene in cells of a human skin in vivo which comprises delivering to said cells at one or more locations of the human skin an effective amount of a composition sufficient to bring about stable genetic and phenotypic modifications in the selected gene at said locations wherein the composition comprises a chimeric RNA-DNA oligonucleotide having a double hairpin structure with pyrimidine loops and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier such that said genetic modifications are made to the selected gene which result in phenotypic changes at said locations of the human skin.

2. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the stable genetic modification is in an epidermal fragility disorder gene selected from the group consisting of COL7A1, LAMA3, LAMB3, LAMC2, COL17A1, ITGA6, ITGB4, PLEC1, KRT5, KRT14 and PKP1.